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of Eastern Canada. The names of Jogues and Bréboeuf, Marquette and Lalemand, are, as they deserve to be, singled out for special honor, but there is no one of this noble band who does not deserve the tribute paid his memory by the author of these intensely interesting pages.

At the present day, when the aborigines are fast disappearing from the United States and Canada, not much attention seems to be given by the average man to the conditions experienced by the early settlers, their relations with the tribes who then dwelt in the land and particularly to the efforts, in a large degree successful, of the Catholic Church to Christianize, and consequently to civilize, the Indians of North America. The ideas of most of us on these matters are rather hazy, and, in particular, few know of the tremendous obstacles to success encountered at every step by the first laborers in the most unpromising of vineyards. A glance through, for instance, Father Campbell's chapters on the four priests mentioned above will prove to most of us somewhat of a revelation. From them, among other things, we learn that the Indian was far from an easy subject for conversion; that on the contrary any ideas he possessed on the subject of religion were particularly alien from Christianity. Longfellow's "Hiawatha" was an ideal who had few counterparts in real life. To acquire a command of the various Indian dialects was also a serious task, and worst of all were the disgusting habits of the natives, which the missionaries had to endure without the slightest sign of repugnance, under pain of instant and perpetual failure to accomplish their object.

Yet, these and numerous other obstacles were met, and eventually overcome, with a patience that was simply inexhaustible, by a host of missionary priests animated by apostolic zeal of the very highest order. The ways and means by which they attained their end are admirably depicted by Father Campbell in the work before us. The noble history of those old-time French priests is excellently told by their modern confrère, and it is a history with which every intelligent American Catholic should become familiar. Every parish library in the land should possess these three volumes, and not merely to ornament the shelves, the fate too frequently of serious works, but for constant, daily usage.

Columbus and His Predecessors. By Charles H. McCarthy, Ph. D., author of "Lincoln's Plan of Reconstruction"; "Civil Government in the United States," etc. Philadelphia: John Joseph McVey, 1912. 12mo., pp. xiv + 224.

Since the advent of the new school of historical criticism there has risen a constantly increasing demand for popular works based upon

strictly scientific investigations. Intelligent general readers as well as learned specialists have begun to clamor for historical truth; the modern historian is called on to share with the people the fruits of his more perfect methods. Dr. McCarthy's essay, as the foreword suggests, aims to comply with this demand in so far as it concerns certain controverted questions about the Discoverer of the New World and the genesis and development of his great project. In a clear and simple style it summarizes the principal known events in the life of Columbus as seen against the back-ground of the achievements of his predecessors. Most notable among these were the Norse navigator Leif, son of Eric, whose discovery of the North American continent in 1001 is no longer disputed, and Prince Henry the Navigator, whose patronage was responsible for a series of brilliant discoveries along the west coast of Africa culminating (after Columbus' first voyage) in Vasco da Gama's famous journey to India around the Cape of Good Hope.

The author's careful study of the career of Columbus concludes with a discussion of the fate of his heirs in the government of the colony he had founded in the New World. The narrative itself is relatively unimportant though it is not slighted; the author seems mainly bent on clearing up some of the misrepresentations which have found their way into Columbian literature through the insufficient study of sources. The Toscanelli correspondence from which Columbus is alleged to have received the first inkling that he could reach India by sailing west, is held to be genuine and those historians who reject it have not proved it to be a forgery.

The disputed question as to who furnished the money with which Queen Isabella defrayed seven-eighths of the expense of the first voyage is taken up in detail. Documents are copiously cited to prove that it was loaned, not by any private citizen, but by Luis de Santangel and Francisco Pinelo acting in the capacity of treasurers of the Santa Hermandad or Holy Brotherhood. Who advanced the one-eighth which Columbus agreed to furnish is not known. It might have come from any one of the numerous influential friends he had made in Spain, perhaps from the Duke of Medina Celi, whose hospitality Columbus enjoyed for two years while he was trying to interest the Spanish sovereigns in his scheme.

The author also disposes of the story of the "nameless pilot" who is alleged to have been driven west by storms to an unknown island in the Atlantic. From here, it is said, he returned as far as the Madeiras and died in Columbus' own house on the Island of Porto Santo after turning over his charts and maps to the future explorer. The story is first quoted by Oviedo in his *General History of the Indies*, published

twenty-nine years after the death of Columbus, but the author of that work himself refused to believe it. Nevertheless, later historians repeated it from time to time with added details, until finally a name is given to the "nameless pilot," the unknown island to which he was driven becomes the very Española where Columbus afterwards planted a colony and the date of the voyage is fixed as 1484, although according to his own statement Columbus spent that year and the next in Portugal. The varying accounts are carefully examined and contrasted with the authenticated facts of Columbus' life with the result that the tale seems all but impossible. Yet, as the author candidly admits, it has even in our own day a powerful champion in the person of M. Vignaud, who goes so far as to reject the Toscanelli correspondence as a forgery rather than surrender his point.

The *Journal* which Columbus kept during his first voyage is cited to prove that contrary to the common belief, the discovery of a new trade-route to India was not his sole or his principal motive. In this document he declares his intention of carrying Christianity to the vast hordes of pagans in the realm of the Great Khan, whose vain attempts to secure missionaries from Rome in the thirteenth century he had read of in Polo's book. With the profits of the expedition, he says, he hoped to finance a new Crusade to rescue the Holy Lands from the Turks.

The political events in Española during the three succeeding visits of the discoverer, the successful intrigues of his enemies, the withdrawal of his titles and powers, his return to Spain in chains, the failure of the Admiral after his release and of his son and heir, Diego, after his father's death, to get complete justice from King Ferdinand, and finally, the passing of the last vestige of authority from the hands of his descendants are narrated in the last two chapters of the essay. It would be difficult to find a greater quantity of useful information touching this epoch-making event in a book so small and so convenient. The study has been prepared with utmost care by an author whose long experience as a professor of American History enables him to speak with authority upon the subject. A bibliography at the end serves as an excellent guide to those who desire to do further reading on the extension of geographical knowledge in general and the Columbian period in particular.

The book is published under the auspices of the Knights of Columbus and the preface is contributed by the Supreme Knight of that order, James A. Flaherty, Esq. It is to be regretted that greater care was not exercised in the matter of printing as well as in the selection of paper and binding. The work is worthy of a better format.
